

Congress has also worked to improve the tools of the SEC to conduct oversight. This bill is in line with the effort to reform the oversight of securities and ensure that massive fraud that was committed on the scale of Bernard Madoff never happens again.

Currently, the Securities and Exchange Commission has to issue subpoenas in the judicial district where the trial takes place or within a "100-mile bulge" of the courthouse. This unnecessarily burdens the staff, which has to travel to the courts where the trial takes place, wasting both time and money. Furthermore, by requiring the SEC to seek action in remote district courts, civil cases may be weakened. Witnesses in cases filed by the SEC are frequently located outside of the trial court's subpoena range. Because witnesses who are not able to travel would have to provide an alternative to live testimony, such as a videotaped deposition or written testimony, the impact of their statement is lost. Additionally, securities violations using the internet involve persons across jurisdictions.

H.R. 2873 will streamline the SEC's ability to investigate potential cases of violations of securities law. This bill will allow nationwide service of subpoenas in civil actions brought by the SEC in Federal courts. By granting the SEC this authority, this legislation will eliminate repetitive depositions. While the Congressional Budget Office has not scored this legislation, logically, this legislation will reduce costs for the SEC. The costs of creating and presenting videotaped depositions will be reduced. Additionally, SEC staff will no longer have to travel to file motions in remote district courts, saving the staff time and the taxpayer money.

Other agencies with similar mandates have long had the authority for nationwide service. This body has already considered and passed this provision: during the 110th Congress, the House of Representatives passed a law of this nature in Section 19 of H.R. 6513, the Securities Act of 2008. Furthermore, the SEC already has this authority in administrative proceedings.

#### HONORING THE MOUND CITY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

##### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 3, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise to recognize the outstanding achievement of the Mound City Panthers High School football team in defeating St. Joseph Christian, by a score of 50-8, to claim victory in this year's Show-Me Bowl.

Once again, the Panthers were able to be crowned champions this season through hard work and tireless effort. This is the second straight year that the Panthers have beaten the Lions in the 8-man title game. These young men have worked tirelessly for years on sharpening the skills needed to achieve the success they most definitely deserve. I join with the community of Mound City in expressing how proud we are of the team under the leadership of Coach Brian Messer and his coaching staff. I wish them the very best and look forward to continued success in the future.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully request you to join me in congratulating the Mound City High School football team on their state championship.

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. JOHN BRADHAM COMMEMORATING HIS RETIREMENT FROM SCRA

##### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 3, 2009*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of the extraordinary efforts of Dr. John Bradham, a life-long patriot and public servant to the citizens of South Carolina and the United States. Born and raised in Sumter, John's unyielding desire to learn and succeed led him to the University of South Carolina for his undergraduate studies and to Texas A&M for multiple advanced degrees. John has a rich history of putting others' needs before his own with the utmost honesty and integrity. He served 24 years in the United States Air Force where he filled numerous leadership roles including command of Air Force Command, Control, Communications, and Computer, C4, programs, as well as environmental research on aircraft systems, radar, and various energy communications systems. John's contributions and service to his country have gone above and beyond the call of duty, evident by the fact that he retired from the Air Force as a full colonel before joining the South Carolina Research Authority, SCRA.

I have had the pleasure of working with John during his tenure at SCRA on a variety of high-level programs that have benefited South Carolinians, our warfighters, and the United States' national security. As the Senior Vice President at SCRA and head of the Institute for Solutions Generation, ISG, John has been an impetus for ingenuity and a driving force for upholding the highest standards of professionalism.

Dr. Bradham's technical knowledge has been crucial in SCRA programs and other projects for pushing the limits of technology and expanding the capabilities of our manufacturing sector to increase America's defense readiness.

I commend Dr. John Bradham for his outstanding service to the United States and for embodying the ideals and morals of what we hold a true American to be. His dedication to his family, friends, and colleagues is unmistakable and seen through the respect and honor he has earned and so righteously deserves. I wish John the best of luck in his future endeavors including his decision to teach and share his technical expertise with the youth of South Carolina. May God bless John, his wife Becky, their two children, and five grandchildren.

#### HONORING JOHN J. RUFÉ

##### HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 3, 2009*

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John J. Rufe of Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Serving his community as a presiding judge in the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas for twenty years, John J. Rufe has embodied what it means to be a public servant.

He has been responsible for authoring several landmark decisions on open space preservation zoning and has presided over the county's asbestos liability litigation for over a decade. In addition, John has been recognized by many for his attentive and considerate mediation in the complex and difficult field of child custody litigation.

John has also served as the President of the Bucks County Bar Association. He has been a contributor to Continuing Legal Education panels and has been a valuable resource for many beginning lawyers by offering constructive comment and guidance.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Honorable John J. Rufe for his outstanding commitment to public service, his community and his country. I am extremely honored to serve as his Congressman.

#### PROTECT RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN IRAQ

##### HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 3, 2009*

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution designed to raise awareness and express support for Iraqi religious minorities. The war in Iraq and the subsequent ethnic and sectarian violence has created a massive humanitarian crisis, and led to the displacement of millions of people. Iraqi religious minorities are particularly vulnerable, and are often specifically targeted in gruesome and random acts of violence, such as murder, rape, and abductions.

Many who have escaped Iraq to seek refuge in neighboring countries are forced to live in poverty, unable to legally work and lacking sufficient support from their host government. Those who remain in Iraq live a life of constant fear. They are forced into hiding and are vulnerable to emotional and physical attacks. Iraqi religious minorities lack the resources and sturdy community foundation necessary to defend themselves, and thus remain underrepresented politically, legally, and economically. Muslims and non-Muslims alike are exposed to such attacks, but the smaller religious sects remain more vulnerable, including Chaldeans, Syriacs, Assyrians, and other Christians, Sabeen Mandeans, and Yazidis. Catholic Christians have witnessed the killing of Archbishop Paulos Faraj Rahho and the ancient Iraqi Jewish community has seen itself diminish to a population of only ten members.

This resolution calls upon the combined efforts of the United States Government and United Nations to ask the Iraqi Government to protect religious minorities by encouraging free and fair elections, training Iraqi security forces and providing safe places to worship. It also seeks an investigation into human rights violations, and calls for an end to the abuse of Iraqi religious minorities. Finally, the resolution calls for United States to work with the Iraqi government to ensure the physical and economic safety of those wishing to return to Iraq.

It is no longer possible to stand by and watch as millions of religious minorities are